

Remarks

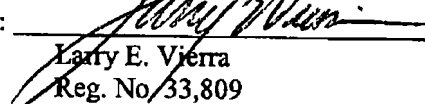
A telephonic interview was conducted with the Examiner on May 6<sup>th</sup> and May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2002 concerning the above claims. Also discussed was U. S. Patent No. 6,330,590, not officially of record at the time of the Interview, but raised by the Examiner as a possible reference.

Agreement was reached on the allowability of the above-amended claims over the prior art of record as well as U. S. Patent No. 6,330,590.

This substitute Amendment [B] is submitted to provide a clean copy of the amended claims, per a teleconference with Examiner Le on May 13, 2002, and an indication of the number of times each claim has been amended, per a teleconference with Examiner Le on May 14, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 15, 2002

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